



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT of
**CORRECTIONS AND
REHABILITATION**

THIS WEEK

www.CDCR.ca.gov

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CDCR's Inmate Ward Labor Program Provides Vocational Skills and Certification

The Inmate Ward Labor (IWL) Program recently celebrated 17 years of progress providing vocational skills training and professional certification to inmates and parolees.

The IWL was established in the Department of Corrections in 1983 under Penal Code Section 2816. The program has proven to be a cost effective and timely method for the completion of a portion of the Department's major and minor capital outlay and special repair projects, while filling a crucial vocational training need for inmates.

In addition to employing inmates and wards, the program provides gainful employment for union trades personnel with expertise in areas of carpentry, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, and other specialized fields, as well as private sector contractors, and IWL supervisory personnel.

"This is a great resource when we are faced with an emergency situation," said Chris Meyer, CDCR's Senior Chief for the Facilities Management Division. "When a riot nearly destroyed the West campus



An inmate welding as part of the instruction.

at the California Institution for Men last year, we used the Inmate Ward Labor Program to rebuild the housing. The crews completed the project on schedule and under budget."

Since 1995, the IWL program has successfully accomplished construction projects at CDCR facilities. While the cost savings is significant, there is another benefit to the program -- vocational skills training. CDCR inmates gain valuable work experience they can use upon their release from custody:

professional certifications in commercial construction.

One such area in which IWL has provided training and certification to inmates is welding. IWL estimates that since 2002, 488 inmates have been trained and certified in welding, either by qualified staff or utilizing outside resources.

On August 21 IWL's Supervisor of Building Trades at Corcoran State Prison, Luis De Castro, received his training and certification from the American Welding Society to certify inmates in welding. With this certification, CDCR can now train and certify inmate/ward welders without the expense of going through an outside certification agency.

IWL also provides training and/or certifications for many types of construction equipment, such as forklifts, backhoes, scissor lifts and aerial boom lifts. Currently IWL has provided training to more than 400 inmates statewide on heavy construction equipment.

For more information, visit the CDCR website at www.cdcr.ca.gov

CALPIA Dairy Re-Awarded Certification Only Earned by 18 Percent Statewide

California Prison Industry Authority's (CALPIA) dairy at the Deuel Vocational Institution in Tracy has been re-awarded the California Dairy Quality Assurance Program's (CDQA) Environmental Stewardship Certification.

"It is gratifying the dairy at Deuel Vocational Institution has been recertified when only 18 percent of California's dairies achieve this recognition," said CALPIA's General Manager, Charles Pattillo. "Being good environmental stewards also complements employment training for inmates. When inmates better appreciate the public good, they are better citizens when released."

Deuel's dairy sells its award-winning milk to the Department of Corrections



CALPIA dairy cows on the job.

and Rehabilitation (including the Division of Juvenile Justice facilities), State hospitals, and the State Veteran's Home. In addition to the Deuel dairy, CALPIA operates a dairy at Corcoran State Prison. The two dairies employ more than 200 inmates with more than 1,600 milking cows.

In a typical month the two dairies produce approximately 390,000 gallons of milk for distribution to state institutions.

CDQA's certification program is a partnership among California's dairy

industry, federal, state and regional government agencies and the UC Cooperative Extension. CDQA has received California's highest and most prestigious environmental award, the Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award (GEELA).

The Environmental Stewardship Partnership Agreement includes a three-step program for facility certification.

The three steps include:

Education - Dairy producers must complete water quality and air quality education courses.

Planning - Each dairy producer reviews their specific farm conditions and prepares appropriate management plans tailored to their facility, and

On-site Evaluations by independent third-party compliance evaluators.

For more details on this information please visit the CDCR Intranet at <http://intranet/> or www.cdcr.ca.gov